

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated February 11, 2008, Applicants provisionally elect Species I, namely claims 1-20 and 35-44, with traverse. Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement because the Examiner has issued the restriction requirement based on PCT Rules. The above-referenced application is a U.S. application, not a PCT application. Thus, for at least this reason, the restriction requirement is improper. Moreover, until the Examiner applies U.S. rules, Applicants are unable to respond to such a restriction requirement. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement.

Further since the addition of new claims 47-53 and the amendment of claim 21 in Applicant's Reply to Written Opinion Under PCT Rules 66.3 dated June 3, 2005 was not accepted, Applicant files this Preliminary Amendment adding those new claims and amending claim 21. Applicant believes new claims 47, 50 and 51 fall within Species I and claims 48, 49, 52 and 53 fall within Species II. Applicant has further amended claims 4, 14, and 38 to remove the multiple dependency.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees incurred for the filing of this amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-3953.

If the Examiner has any questions, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (713) 238-8000.

Respectfully submitted,



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